

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Personal and Literary.

—Mrs. Sarah L. Knox, of San Jose, Cal., is announced as an independent candidate for the Legislature, and is warmly indorsed by the *San Jose Pioneer*.

—Anna Dickinson has been heard from again. She tried to prevent Helen M. Potter from imitating her personation of "Anne Boleyn" at Philadelphia; but Miss Potter, under legal advice, gave her performance, as advertised.

—Generals Early, Fitzhugh Lee, Wilcox, Long, Alexander and Heth have recently contributed to the Southern Historical Society papers relating to the Battle of Gettysburg which, it is said, will shed a good deal of light on the incidents of that great conflict.

—Mrs. Elizabeth Avery Merriwether, of Memphis, has written and published a drama, "The Ku-Klux Klan; or, the Carpet-Bagger in New Orleans," in the making of which she has used both tragical and farcical material, taken from the abundance indicated by the title.

—Bayard Taylor has published eight volumes of poetry, 12 volumes of travel, four volumes of novels and stories, and translations of the two parts of "Faust"—26 volumes in less than 33 years, to say nothing of the works he has edited, his magazine papers, his lectures, and his thousands of newspaper articles.

—Miss Blanche Willis Howard, whose first literary venture, entitled "One Summer," met with so kindly a reception, is one of the most promising young writers of New England. She is but 23 years of age, a native of Bangor, Me., and was, fortunately, pushed into literature by the circumstances of her life. She is now in Germany, and her letters to Boston papers are particularly bright and interesting.

—The most popular as well as the best paid newspaper writer before the public now, and who is at the high tide of success, is Mary Clemmer Ames, as she was first known. Eleven years ago she began writing for the *New York Independent*, and it now pays her \$30 per week. The *Cincinnati Commercial* also pays her \$30 for every letter she writes for its columns, and, besides these regular salaries, she has all the transient work she can do at her own price, and she places no mean estimate upon her pen.

—Joaquin Miller has just poured out the following literary information: "The great American novel is in the far future. It can not be written until the railroads are all laid. When the house is built, then can you furnish it. Dickens found character ready for his hand. He did not create it. In America there are no fixed characters. The people are constantly changing. To-day you see a grand man in the field, his hair blown back by the wind and his breast bared to the sun. To-morrow he has sold his farm, his family and fortunes are in a covered wagon, and he is climbing the Rocky Mountains. The next year you find him a Congressman—or a filibuster. He will not sit still long enough to be photographed. There are, therefore, no American novels of character. Only the Indians never change. They have 'fixed cussedness.'"

Science and Industry.

—An extensive deposit of terra cotta has been recently discovered in Washington County, near Fort Calhoun, Nebraska.

—The cost of the production of cotton in the South is greatest in Mississippi and Louisiana, while it is least in Texas, South Carolina and Georgia.

—A number of railroad men are soon to leave Binghamton, N. Y., for Brazil. Work is offered to 600 skilled men of this class for three years, at a handsome salary.

—The sour oranges of Florida—fruit which grows indigenously and most abundantly in that strange peninsula—have at last been utilized in the manufacture of marmalade.

—Grape growers in California are alarmed at the prospect of the ravages of that destroyer, the phylloxera. It has appeared before in the State, but the loss by it has hitherto been inconsiderable.

—The Michigan Salt Association has recently contracted with the Michigan Central Railroad Company to transport 100,000 bushels of salt in bulk to Chicago. This is a new feature in the shipping trade, and, though hard on coop-

ers, will make a large saving for producers and consumers.

—Irrigation is nowhere else in the United States so extensively practiced as in California; and there it is, perhaps, carried to an unprofitable excess. A scheme for a main canal through several counties, with the necessary branches, will entail a cost of \$35 on every acre of land affected.

—The Russian Government intend to offer a bounty on all locomotives made exclusively in Russia. On those of four wheels they will offer a bounty of 2,400 roubles, on those of six wheels 2,600 roubles, and on those of eight wheels 3,000 roubles; but all the parts must be made in Russia. A similar policy is to be applied to the manufacture of steel.

—The Bureau of Statistics has published a statement showing that exports of oleomargarine (or butterine) from New York, during seven months ended March 31, amounted to 3,549,625 pounds, value \$487,487; of which 235,232 pounds were shipped to France, and 912,392 pounds to Great Britain.

School and Church.

—As the supply of graduates of the Chicago Normal School has become much greater than the demand, the school is to be closed for a year.

—Fisk University, Nashville, Tenn., has sent nine of its students to Mississippi as teachers. The demand for good colored teachers in the South is said to be steadily increasing.

—The *Christian Union* says that it makes a man purer and better to cherish a rejected love. There is more fun, however, in going off and making love to another girl.—*Norwich Bulletin*.

—The trustees of the Iowa Agricultural College have added a kitchen to that institution and placed it under the charge of the teacher of domestic economy. This year each young lady in the junior class will have to spend one morning in each week in the kitchen for practical instruction.

—A ministers' bureau has been opened in New York by Rev. C. C. Goss, for the purpose of effecting permanent exchanges between pastors already settled, and it will not confine itself to any one denomination. It also proposes to circulate "well written sermons," of course for the convenience of cheap ministers who can't write their own.

—The annual report of the American Bible Society shows receipts for the year \$543,579, including \$227,928 for publications, \$188,013 from legacies, and \$91,274 from donations. The expenditures nearly equaled the receipts. During the year 621,726 Bibles were issued at home, and 259,330 abroad, making a total of 881,056.

—The Rev. John Miller, whom the Presbytery in New Jersey has declared guilty of heresy, was a clerical *bete noir* of Stonewall Jackson, who was a professor in the Military Institute while Mr. Miller lived and preached in Rockbridge. After Mr. Miller's marriage to the divorced wife of ex-Gov. Thomas of Maryland, which Jackson believed forbidden by Scripture, he would never hear him preach. When Mr. Miller entered the Southern Army, in which he was a brave soldier, he tried to get up a brigade, but Jackson, it is said, used his influence to prevent it, or in any event to have him attached to his command.

—The college of Southern Methodist bishops completed a plan of Episcopal visitations for the ensuing year, as follows: Bishop Marvin will hold Western St. Louis, Missouri, Indiana, Wisconsin, Northwestern Missouri and Mississippi Conferences. Bishop Keeler, Western Virginia, North Alabama, Memphis, North Mississippi and Alabama; Bishop Pierce, Northern Georgia, Southern Georgia and Florida; Bishop Kavanaugh, Illinois, Louisville, Arkansas, White River and Little Rock; Bishop Doggett, Tennessee, Holston, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina; Bishop McTear, Denver, Columbia, Pacific, Los Angeles, Baltimore; Bishop Paine, Kentucky, German mission, Louisiana; Bishop Wightman holds all the Texas conferences. The China Mission in charge of Bishop Marvin; Mexican and Brazilian Mission in charge of Bishop Keeler.

Haps and Mishaps.

—Mrs. Frank Feathers, of Berrien Springs, Mich., lost her life by her clothes taking fire while she was boiling soap.

—George Fish, of Maunton, Juan

County, Wis., recently started for the Black Hills. When near Winona, Minn., he carelessly pulled his gun out of the wagon, was shot through the head, and killed instantly.

—The little daughter of Mrs. Freedman, of Sandusky, Ohio, was scalded to death by falling into a kettle of boiling water, which her mother had taken from the stove and placed upon the floor.

—George Bail, of Dutchess County, N. Y., went to the barn to shoot some rats. Seeing a rat, he reached for his gun, which was loaded with buckshot and lying on the ground, and dragged it cautiously towards him. The trigger caught in some obstruction, and the weapon was discharged, the contents entering young Bail's groin. He rolled off the box on the ground, and died without uttering a word.

—Some recent suicides: At Columbus, O., Minnie Hamilton, by taking arsenic—her third attempt. At Sheffield, O., Eugene Burrill, aged 27, by shooting. At Carlisle, Ind., J. M. Parvin, a leading merchant, by shooting—a son's misconduct supposed to be the cause. At Harmony, Ind., George Halstead, by shooting—financial troubles. At Brooks Station, Ky., George Parmelee, a well known young man of Louisville, by shooting. In Mercer County, Ky., Nelson Brown, a prominent citizen, by shooting. At Niles, Mich., Granville Snuff, aged 23, by shooting.

Foreign Notes.

—Some of the Spanish papers are advocating the suppression of the bull-fights, and are publishing an eloquent appeal to the Cortes asking that it may be declared illegal to allow horses to take part in them. There are 100 bull-rings in Spain, and only 12 savings-banks. Several of the towns which have recently built rings have no schools.

—The Italian Government has ordered the dissolution of all international societies in Italy, and the police have seized their effects. A number of papers have been found, revealing the objects of the several associations, their intended propaganda, and the means to be employed for carrying out their views. The treasures of the societies were all empty, and the very meager lists of subscriptions justified the emptiness.

—The temperance people of Great Britain are greatly scandalized by the promised appearance of the Prince of Wales, in the capacity of President, at a great dinner of the publicans, to be given at Willis's rooms some time this month. It is said that the heir apparent "must have been shamefully imposed upon and his consent obtained under false pretenses." Loyal Englishmen and Englishwomen are called upon to unite with one voice to resent "so monstrous a scandal."

—Not long since a love affair of a somewhat romantic character took place in the royal family of Serbia. The widowed Lady von Blaznavatsch, a niece of Prince Milan, fell in love with her relative, Michael Bogitjewitsch, a cousin of the Prince's. Such a marriage was not permissible in orthodox Serbia, so they crossed into Hungary, and were married by the Roman Catholic priest at Weizkirchen. So much feeling was caused, however, in Serbia by their marriage that they have since left that country forever.

—The Emperor and Empress of Brazil lately arrived in Paris, and will remain there until the end of this month. He endeavored to enter the city without a reception, but found at the station a number of Brazilians, besides the Brazilian and Portuguese Ambassadors and suites, and also Gen. D'Alzac, sent by President MacMahon. The Emperor and Empress exchanged visits during the day with the President and his wife, and, after receiving several relations, departed, as usual, on a tour of inspection. They have since lived quietly.

—German diplomats are not to be allowed hereafter to marry foreign wives. Bismarck has found that state secrets are too apt to leak out where his Embassadors are linked to foreigners. Baron Bunsen, German Consul-General to Alexandria, lately dared to marry a Russian lady in violation of this edict of the German Premier. It was pleaded by the Baron, who is a son of the great scholar and diplomatist, that his wife's parents were both Germans by birth, though they had spent most of their lives in Russia. In vain; the stern Chancellor was inexorable, and Baron

Bunsen is accordingly dismissed. It is said that some important secrets of Bismarck's were betrayed at Pera through the indiscretion or treachery of a lady who had wheeled them out of her husband.

Odds and Ends.

—A millionaire in San Francisco has paid \$700 for kissing the family seamstress; yet people will persist in saying that prices are going down.—*Rochester Democrat*.

—A country editor asks, "What is worse than to edit a weekly newspaper, with two-thirds of the subscribers in arrears?" We can not stop to consider the question. We are eager to ask what he uses his ears for such a purpose as that for.—*Rochester Democrat*.

—A Philadelphia mother, with a cat-o'-nine-tails, walked into a school-room and rescued her precious boy, who was being punished by the school-ma'am. Education and maternal instincts never did get on well together, and hence our smiling penitentiaries.—*Courier-Journal*.

—An intelligent Burlington hunting-dog that had a rather busy time last season went down to a tin-shop one day last week and had his hind legs and back plated with sheet-iron. And now when he sees his master looking at the gun he smiles and remarks that he is ready to hunt in front of the best fancy shot in Burlington.—*Burlington Hawk-eye*.

—As a gentleman stepped into a Fulton drug-store yesterday, and called for a glass of soda-water, the boy at the fountain jokingly asked: "Will you have a fly in it?" "Yes, sir," said the man promptly. The boy scooped one off the wall, and dropping it in the slrup, drew on the water and set it down for the purpose of continuing the joke, but before he could withdraw it, the stranger seized the glass and swallowed the beverage, fly and all, remarking as he wiped his mouth, "I'd 'a' swallowed that if it had been an elephant, rather'n have a boy with no hair on his lip git the best of me."—*Fulton Times*.

Those Abominable English Hotels.

I saw an angry American a few days ago. He was absolutely bursting with indignation. Said he: "I'm going home. I can't stand the English hotels. If an enterprising American hotel-keeper were to come over here, he'd open people's eyes. Now just listen to me. I wrote from Paris to the Langham Hotel, desiring certain rooms for a certain date, at 4 o'clock. I received word that the rooms would be ready. On arriving at the hotel I was told that they were not ready, that I ought to have telegraphed. Did you ever know such impudence? I expostulated, and then was sent to a suite of rooms, one of which was already occupied. Objecting to this, I was sent to four different, but equally indifferent suites, and finally left the house in disgust. Thence we drove to the Midland Hotel, where we were put up very near heaven, though the building is enormous and could not have been full, and where guests are allowed to go up in the elevator, but forced to go down the stairs, whether you are dead or alive. Now, at most hotels, an order for one meal supplies food for two people, but in this charming retreat, if two people or more dine from the same dish, each person is charged the full price of the dish! A small pot of coffee out of which I helped five people cost me \$2.50! It cost \$8 a day to live at the Midland in one ordinary room. There isn't an American rich enough to live there in style. At the Northwestern Hotel in Liverpool I could not get a bottle of hot water at night until I had warmed the servant's hand with two shillings. Then she discovered that hot water was a possibility. I tell you that the hotel system here is abominable, and I wish you'd put what I say in print." I have, and I hope the irate New Yorker will send over an ideal hotel-keeper. There is a fortune to be made—by the right man.—*Kate Field, in the Graphic*.

—At Martinsville, Ind., Maj. E. M. Woody, a dry-goods merchant, and his clerk, John Knight, slept in the same room over the store. Woody, hearing burglars trying to effect an entrance, got up and took a position by a window, without disturbing Knight. Subsequently he too awoke, and getting no reply to his inquiry as to who was in the room, fired his pistol, the ball lodging in Woody's side, inflicting serious but not necessarily fatal injuries.